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INFORMATION REPORT

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1. At the present time in the Soviet Union there is an order that every person leaving his place of residence temporarily or for an extended period of time must fill out a request for a legal discharge and submit it to the branch of the militia at his place of residence. The passport of the requestor must be properly stamped because without it he will not be permitted to reside in any other place. For the official form of the discharge it is necessary to write a statement to the head of the militia or the head of the passport desk nearest the requestor's place of residence. The statement includes a request for release from a given place of residence and the reasons for such a request (departure to another city). This statement must be presented to the housing management. At the same time it is necessary to present to the housing manager a passport, military card and documents, transfer orders, discharge, summons to another place, etc. After that the manager stamps the release and returns all the documents to the person for attachment to the statement.
2. To prove that the requestor has a legal official discharge from a previous place of residence, a specific stamp must be present on the passport. This stamp is placed on the visa page of the passport by the local militia. The stamp is the official seal indicating the requestor's description, his residence, city, street and house number, and also the number of the militia branch and the signature of the person responsible for the official discharge. In general the form and size of the discharge stamp does not differ from the form and size of the visa stamp. The discharge stamp and the visa stamp are both

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issued by the passport desk of the militia office in the requestor's place of residence.

3. In principle every discharge from a previous place of residence is a permanent or a long period departure of a given person to another locality. Sometimes special authorization for a discharge in order to depart to another locality is not required. If the individual has a job, then he must have a release from his job. This is confirmed by an official stamp issued by the personnel branch at the place of employment and is found on the "personal record" page of the passport. I have heard from rather responsible people that the role of the discharge records is very important, not so much for the discharge itself but more for the visa to the new places of residence and in particular for the individual's status as a citizen. Before World War II, notes in the passport concerning a discharge from a previous residence were not required. Generally the release from a previous place of residence was made up by the housing management. The person departing for another locality did not transact any business with the militia in making up his discharge. At any rate I never personally visited a militia organ to obtain an official discharge.
4. As far as I know, the military rank and file, sergeants and officers of the reserve are removed from the military register of the local militia office when they move away. Usually this step is taken by the local housing authority when it receives a request for a discharge. Reserve officers must report personally to the local military commissariat to have their names removed from that military register. An officer must submit a statement to the military commissar requesting the removal of his name from the register and giving the reasons for leaving to go to another locality. Any names removed from the register are recorded with the military commissar or in some cases with the chief of the third section of the army commissariat.

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